

Summary Minutes of the
Delta Protection Commission Meeting
Thursday, July 28, 2011

San Joaquin County WorkNet Building
56 S. Lincoln Street
Stockton, California 95203

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Flag Salute.

Vice Chair Reagan called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

2. Welcome Commission Members.

Vice Chair Reagan welcomed Commissioners and guests to the meeting, and thanked San Joaquin County as the host.

3. Roll Call.

Present: Chair Nottoli; Commissioners Eggman, Ferrara, Provenza (for McGowan), Reagan, Ruhstaller, Nomellini (for Scriven), Schubert, Schlendorf (for Buchannan) Vick, and van Loben Sels. Absent: Commissioners Bugsch, Cabaldon, Ferguson, and Piepho.

4. Public Comment. Opportunity for the Public to Address the Commission On Items Not on the Agenda

No one addressed the Commission.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. APPROVE Minutes of May 26, 2011 and June 23, 2011 Meeting of the Commission.

6. RECEIVE Informational Update Regarding Department of Water Resources FloodSafe Program - Local Flood Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response Grant.

7. RECEIVE Informational Update On the Delta Protection Advisory Committee.

8. RECEIVE Status Update Relative to the Great California Delta Trail.

9. RECEIVE Informational Update and Consider for Approval the Primary Zone Study Findings and Recommendations.

Mike Machado asked that the May 26, 2011 minutes be removed from the Consent Calendar.

Vice Chair Regan moved approval of the remainder of the Consent Agenda; Commissioner Ruhstaller seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

REGULAR AGENDA

10. Receive Presentation From Contra Costa County Ag Commissioner Relative to the South American Spongeplant.

Vince Guise, Contra Costa County Ag Commissioner reported on the spongeplant invasive species in the Delta. Mr. said the spongeplant was first discovered in northern California and has spread throughout the Delta down past the Central Valley. He said the spongeplant is similar to another invasive species—the water hyacinth—and can move upstream rather quickly.

Mr. Guise said that treatment of this particular invasive species could work if infestation is caught early. Mr. Guise also said that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) received money, with the help of Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW), to help eradicate the invasive species, but more help is needed. He asked that the Commission support potential legislation to help broaden DBW's authority to include the spongeplant, as DBW can only eradicate *Egeria Densa* and water hyacinth.

Vic Chair Regan asked if there is a time of year when the sponge plant seeds. Mr. Guise responded that seeding usually occurs from April through late summer.

Commissioner Nomellini asked what role CDFA had in the eradication process. Mr. Guise responded that CDFA is tasked with spraying the hot spots.

Commissioner Eggman asked how the Commission could be most helpful. Mr. Guise responded that the Commission could support legislation that would give funding and broaden DBW's authority bill that would help DBW with funding for spraying.

Commissioner Ferrara asked if the county Ag commissioners are working with the State. Mr. Guise responded yes, the Ag. Commissioners are working with the California Invasive Species Council.

11. RECEIVE Presentation From National Parks Service Regional Co-Coordinator Relative to the Delta National Heritage Area.

Linda Stonier, National Parks Service, gave a brief overview of the National Heritage Areas (NHAs) program. Ms. Stonier reported that NHA's are regions designated by Congress that bring natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources together, that must have the local, grassroots support and the involvement of residents, government community groups, non profits and business. Ms. Stonier said that while the National Parks Service provides technical, planning and limited financial assistance to NHAs and acts as a partner and advisor, it leaves all decision making to locals and organizations. Ms. Stonier outlined the various NHA's through the country and the available financing options for starting a NHA.

Mr. Machado noted that the Commission held public meetings to discuss the mission, vision, and goals for the Delta NHA.

12. RECEIVE and DISCUSS the Public Draft Economic Sustainability Plan for the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta.

Dr. Jeff Michael, University of the Pacific gave a presentation on the various chapters in the first administrative draft of the ESP. Discussion ensued on the chapters with the Commission and the public. Pam Jones of the ESP Consultant team led the discussion.

Public Comments

Bill Geyer, Resource Landowners Coalition, stated that he supported the Commission and offered his help, particularly with the expansion of the Primary Zone. Mr. Geyer stated that prior discussions with respect to legacy towns did not reach the level of conclusion it should have and he offered to help further those discussions. Mr. Machado responded that the Commission will be discussing the Primary Zone report in September.

Mark Wilson, Clarksburg, commented that the language for the ESP should be tightened up regarding existing organizations; the language should give preference to publicly owned lands, define how levees are under private ownership, and outline the liability of landowners.

13. RECEIVE Report From the Executive Committee and Executive Director, Including Informational Updates on Delta Stewardship Council and Delta Conservancy Activities, and Other Delta Initiatives and Commission Activities Underway, and Act on Recommendations Pursuant to Commission Member Discussion, if Determined Timely.

There was no report.

14. Comments and Announcements From Members of the Commission.

There were no comments/announcements.

15. ADJOURN.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.